



Our Family Book



HEATHER AND MASON



Hello there! Thank you for taking a look at our book. We are so happy we can share a bit about us with you.

our story



We met in 2006 while working at Starbucks together. After Heather left Starbucks, Mason asked her out (which she didn't know was a date) and Heather put him in the "friend zone". After being friends for a couple of months, then roommates, we got together in 2008 and knew within the first week of being a couple that we found the person to be with forever. We got officially married in 2011, had our wedding in 2012 and the rest is history! We discovered a mutual love of the show Friends when we were roommates and that sealed our bond. At any point of the day, we will throw out obscure quotes from the show and start laughing at one another.



Since then, we have cultivated mutual interests of travel both internationally and domestically, food, theater shows and exploring what Oregon has to offer.



About Heather



I grew up in a small, suburban town about 30 minutes south of San Francisco where everyone seemed to know one another. My parents split when I was 5 and I primarily lived with my mom and brother, but stayed with my dad every other weekend. I received an associates degree in Early Childhood Education from a community college down in California and worked as an educator for 4 years. I now work in the non-profit sector of a biotech company where I help people get access to medication. I consider myself a positive person and like to see the good in people. I love acting like a total goofball by making funny sounds randomly or dancing around in public places like the grocery store. I love to read (and am very proud of my growing home library). I get together with friends for book trading parties and book shopping. I also love to craft, upcycle furniture, go thrift store shopping and eat really yummy food!

Fun facts about Heather:

I love country music and have seen Reba McEntire in concert 7 times

I once had a job where I had to dress up like a flip flop to promote a sale

I am an early bird and my wake up time is usually between 4:00-5:00 a.m.

As a kid, I loved playing Barbies and reading the Babysitter's Club book series

I am new to cooking, but have an old family recipe that I make really well (It's basically a meat cheese casserole, and it is delicious!)

My favorite summer memory as a kid was camping at a place called Lake Pillsbury in Mendocino County, CA

If I were a "Friends" character, I would be Monica because I have been known to shout "I know!"



I was born on the outskirts of Seoul, South Korea. With my parents passing, my sister and I were eventually adopted and brought to the U.S. where we were raised in the bay area of Northern California. During our upbringing, we spent a considerable amount of time outdoors, playing make believe, swimming, skating, etc. This led to my attraction to all things outdoors as an adult. Indoors, I spent hours learning to play the piano, percussion, and was a voracious reader.

About Mason



I'm an Air Force veteran, serving most of my time in Montana. After fifteen plus years in retail management, I went back to school to earn a bachelors degree in healthcare administration and currently work for a biotech company in their patient support services department. When I'm not busy bothering my wife, I enjoy riding motorcycles, either alone or with friends.

I'm also an avid film enthusiast, and built my own home theater to support that hobby.



More glamping vs. camping as I get older. Long gone are the days of digging my own holes.

I once completed the Spartan Trifecta, three different obstacle course runs in one year.

I love to cook and bake for others, but not for myself.

Fun Facts:

I'm all about anything on two wheels. Nowadays, I prefer two wheels with engines between them to do the work.

I consider myself a Swiftie. Yes, I've seen her in concert. Sadly no, it wasn't her Eras tour.

As a kid, I used to eat the whole orange, including the peel. I didn't realize this wasn't common until later. I also sometimes ate the cob when eating corn on the cob.



Friends (tv show) for life! The Big Bang Theory is a close second as Sheldon resonates with my inner self as a fellow Homo Novus.

Star Wars over Star Trek. DC over Marvel if I have to choose. I first watched Wonder Woman on the flight from South Korea to the U.S. My first english words were Wonder Woman.

What Mason loves about Heather



Heather is a kind, sensitive, and thoughtful person, who truly sees value in others that many might not see. However, she is also no fool, and isn't afraid to call out an undesirable characteristic trait of a person either. Heather has the ability to find joy in the simplest of things. She has expressed the same amount of joy in treating herself to \$12 worth of new fake flowers as she has for a trip to Hawaii. She is resilient and resourceful. Having faced numerous life challenges and doubters along the way, she always manages to find a way to accomplish her goals.

What Heather loves about Mason



Mason is a person with tremendous integrity and you never have to question his intentions because he is very honest. He has a great sense of humor and doesn't take himself too seriously. He has an ability to find joy in the little things in life and is the happiest person I know because he chooses to be happy. Mason is also incredibly smart and intelligent (almost to the point of being annoying because he is right so much of the time!)

Our Friends/Community



Community is really important to us. Since moving to Oregon, we have established a beautiful network of friends who we get together with regularly. We love having a network of people who get together for holidays, football parties or just a regular Friday night. Heather has had the same best friend since she was 5 (who has moved to Oregon as well) and Mason has a couple of long term friendships stemming back to 2001. Our friends are incredibly excited for us to be on the adoption journey and have been so supportive.

Our Family



Our family is spread out throughout the country, predominantly on the West Coast. We keep in regular contact with them and fly out to see them as much as we can. They are thrilled at that thought of a child coming into their lives. Heather's parents and Mason's sister especially have given us gentle nudges for years about wanting to be grandparents and an aunt! For them, this adoption means getting to expand their love to a little one and get to spoil them as much as they can.



Our Home and Neighborhood



We live in a quiet, family-friendly neighborhood in a Portland suburb that we moved into in 2019. The neighborhood was completely built out in 2021 and we have lovely neighbors throughout the area that we get together with for BBQs and various parties. We pride ourselves on creating a home that is welcoming and inviting because we love to host people! We are that house you can stop by for a cup of coffee or pizza night. The more, the merrier!



Favorite Traditions



We celebrate the day we became friends, by having a "friendiversary" every year. We love Christmas and it is both of our favorite holidays! Decorating the house for all of the Christmas festivities gives us so much joy, especially Mason, it brings out the little kid in him! For Halloween in the last several years, we have dressed up in identical animal onesie costumes. First year we were bears, the next year we were cows and the third year was triceratops. Who knows what next year will bring?! We would love to have our child's birth family become a part of those traditions and create new ones together too.

Dreams for our child

We have waited a long time to become parents and did not make this decision lightly. We are thrilled at the thought of being a mommy and a daddy. We both know what it is like to see our parents work hard to give us the opportunities they didn't have and we want to give our child every advantage we can provide. They will grow up in a loving home with parents who would do anything for them. We want to travel with them, show them how differently people can live and open their minds to a myriad of other cultures.

While experiences are meaningful for us, the most important thing we want for our child is to grow up to be a kind human being. We will show them how to get there with love, open-mindedness, forgiveness, empathy, compassion and honesty. We want them to try their best in life and know that we will always be there to support them.



Adoption Aspirations

When we first discussed adoption, the idea felt very natural for us. The more we learned about adoption, specifically open adoption, the more secure we were that this was the best decision for us as a family. We want our child to have strong connections with their birth family because we believe that every person deserves to know where they come from. We want our child's first family to feel welcomed by us and that they are our family as well, because in our eyes, they are. We want them to feel valued and know how important they are not only to our child, but to us too. We define family as the people that love you because they make that choice to open themselves to love you.

More photos of our lives







Thank you for taking a look, we are so excited to meet you!

